GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1478
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
INCIDENTS OF SUBSIDENCE IN COAL MINES
Khan Shri Sunil

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of subsidence have taken place/are taking place in areas specially in sansol, Raniganj Panddaleswar and Landhoa areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has contemplated any scheme for social securities of the people of that area including provisions for jobs for the land losers;

(d) the details of production of coal and its cost per month by ECL and other companies during the last three years including the current year, company-wise and year-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents of subsidence?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Wherever caving method of coal extraction is adopted there will be planned subsidence and the same is happening in Raniganj Coal Fields in many mines. However, unplanned subsidence have occurred at the following places during last 12 months:

Date of occurrence	Colliery/place	Brief description of incidence
June'06&July'06	Hariajam colliery /Mugma Area	Subsidence occurred due to illegal mining and the area had been filled up by earth.
23.06.06	Kalipahari unit Kalapahari colliery /Sripur Area	Pot hole occurred at about 130m South-East of Pit No.2 due to illegal mining in the area. Filling with sand had been done and the area was fenced off.
15.07.06	Poniati Workshop/Sripur Area	Subsidence occurred over old workings, the places worked during pre-nationalised period 4 nos. of quarters of Poniati workshop on the right side of Domohani Jamuria DB road All the 4 nos of quarter vacated.
27.08.06	Lower Kenda/Kenda A Area	pot hole occurred at Goalpara at about 225m from Ranigunj-Suri road due to old abandoned working in Kenda seam (Abandoned since 1928).
16.10.06	Poniati Workshop/Sripur	Subsidence occurred due to illegal mining over coal

Area barrier left in u/g for the road connecting Poniati workshop & Poriharpur village.

16/01/2007 Old North Muslia On 16.01.2007 at about 3.30 am
Colliery /Erstwhile in the early morning there was
company (Sripur a subsidence in and around bye-
Area) pass National high way No 2
near Ghagarburi temple about
400 meters West side in the
road from Asansol diversion
point due to old workings.

15.06.07 Kalipahari /Sripur Crack on surface developed due
Area to pre-nationalised working in
underground.

26.07.07 Kalipahari /Sripur Pot hole on surface occurred
Area due to pre-nationalised
workings in underground.

The main reason for unplanned subsidence has been unscientific mining carried out by erstwhile owners. Main causes of subsidence are due to existence of old workings with full height extraction and wide galleries, multi-seam & multi- section development under shallow cover and existence of developed workings below worked out seams. At times pumping of water from such abandoned mines also causes subsidence.

(c) & (e) : Yes,Sir. For the purpose of shifting of People from the endangered areas of fire and subsidence, a separate R&R package has been prepared and incorporated in the Master/ Action Plan dealing with fire, subsidence and rehabilitation on Jharia & Raniganj Coalfields.

Apart from the above-mentioned Action Plan, Government of West Bengal has an Act preventing construction in such endangered areas. Steps are also taken by coal companies and State Government to stop and discourage illegal mining. Wherever feasible hydro-pneumatic sand stowing is done to stabilize the area. From time to time the inhabitants are also notified by local colliery authorities regarding nearby danger prone areas to dissuade people from venturing into any activities in those areas.

(d): The details of coal production of Coal India Limited during the last three years and the current year, till date, company-wise and year-wise is given below:

(Fig. in Mt)

Company	2007-08 (Prov) (upto July'07)	2006-07 (Prov)	2005-06	2004-05
ECL	6.94	30.47	31.11	27.25
BCCL	7.03	24.20	23.31	22.32
CCL	9.69	41.32	40.51	37.39
NCL	17.20	52.16	51.52	49.95
WCL	13.12	43.21	43.20	41.41
SECL	27.65	88.50	83.03	78.55
MCL	24.17	80.00	69.61	66.08
NEC	0.27	1.05	1.10	0.63
CIL	106.07	360.91	343.39	323.58

Company-wise cost of production of coal is given in the Annexure-A.